



<b>Name of Property:</b>	Hill-Stead (updated documentation)
<b>City, State:</b>	Farmington, Connecticut
<b>Period of Significance:</b>	1898–1946
<b>NHL Criteria:</b>	1 and 4
<b>NHL Themes:</b>	III Expressing Cultural Values 2. visual and performing arts 5. architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design
<b>Previous Recognition:</b>	1992 National Historic Landmark
<b>National Historic Context:</b>	XXIV. Painting and Sculpture K. Supporting Institutions XVI. Architecture M. Period Revivals I. Georgian <i>Women’s History Initiative</i>

**NHL Significance:**

- Designated as an NHL in 1991 for its architectural significance as a Colonial Revival style house, the textual focus of the Hill-Stead nomination was the architecture and the juxtaposition of extraordinary French Impressionist art displayed in the 1898 home



established by Alfred Pope.

- Since the original designation, a great deal of scholarship has been completed on the property documenting the buildings as the work of its principal architect, Theodate Pope Riddle, as well as her role in creating the remarkable landscape. Pope's concepts for landscape design incorporated not only the residence and handsome outbuildings, but also the vistas, farm fields, and uncultivated woodland areas into a unified site that still reflects her vision of more than a century ago.
- As the daughter of Alfred Pope, who first established Hill-Stead, Theodate worked with architects McKim, Mead & White and landscape architects Warren Manning and Beatrix Farrand to develop this estate. New documentation has established Theodate's primary role in all facets of the designed estate while establishing her own independent practice.
- Theodate Pope, who later married John Riddle, created a country estate with gardens, landscapes, and buildings in a vernacular Colonial Revival style that enhance the main house, modeled on Mt. Vernon. Theodate Pope's interests included incorporating an eighteenth-century working farm with the latest progressive ideas in agriculture, which survives to this day.

**Integrity:**

- The estate, including its buildings and landscapes, retains a high degree of historic integrity. Although certain landscape features, such as the golf links, tennis court, and the "wild garden" have been altered, they still contribute to the integrity of the overall designed landscape as historic sites.
- The only noncontributing resources are the caretaker's house and parking lot, both unobtrusively located on the property.

**Owner of Property:** The Hill-Stead Museum

**Acreage of Property:** 152 acres

**Origins of Nomination:** In 2008, the museum's board requested that the NHL nomination be revised to better understand the national significance of the property.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:**

- Improved NHL documentation will enhance the public's appreciation of the landscape and outbuildings, as well as the career of an important early female architect.
- Updating the documentation for Hill-Stead would demonstrate the importance of updating existing NHL documentation to reflect the latest scholarship, especially when new research identifies nationally significant histories associated with underrepresented groups.

**Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** None is known.

**Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of September 9, 2020):**

**National Historic Landmarks Committee Comments:**

- Add some discussion of the laborers in the house and on the farm.

- Identified issues regarding certain design elements and supporting photographs, which will be addressed in the revised nomination.

**National Historic Landmarks Committee Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends that the National Park System Advisory Board recommend to the Secretary of the Interior the acceptance of the NHL updated documentation for the Hill-Stead National Historic Landmark in Farmington, Connecticut, with any additions and corrections as noted by the Committee being made prior to the nomination being forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior for his action.

**Advisory Board Recommendation:**